

**TOWN OF CANTON BOARD
SPECIAL JOINT MEETING**

March 11, 2019

6:30 pm

Minutes

Present: Supervisor Mary Ann Ashley, Council members Bob Washo, James Smith, Phil LaMarche, Tim Danehy

Also, in Attendance: Town Clerk/Tax Collector Lisa Hammond, Director of Economic Development Leigh Rodriguez, Village Mayor Mike Dalton, and Village Trustees Carol Pynchon, Beth Larrabee, Sean O'Brien and Klaus Proemm, Assessor Cindy Brand, Toby Irven, Adam Akinson, Tedra Cobb and Katie Murphy

Absent: Recreation Director Jim Putman

7:00 P.M. Supervisor Mary Ann Ashley opened the Joint Special meeting held with the Village of Canton

B. Welcome Recreation Director and Town Assessor

Assessor Cindy Brand was introduced by Town Supervisor Mary Ann Ashley. Board members welcomed Brand.

C. Ethics Committee Report and Discussion:

Tedra Cobb and Katie Murphy members of the Ethics task force were present Discussion was held on the current Ethics Code that the Village and Town have now. Cobb stated that they looked at the State Comptrollers policy, then took it, edited and added one item of a disclosure statement to the policy. Cobb added that the Comptroller has no issue with the Village and Town sharing an Ethics policy. The disclosure statement that was modeled for Canton came from St. Lawrence County. This disclosure statement is still in draft mode. Suggestions and concerns were exchanged. Trustee Carol Pynchon suggested replacing the words St. Lawrence County with Town and Village of Canton. Pynchon offered to work with Katie Murphy on the word changes and editing of the annual disclosure statement. Disclosure statements are to be filed with the Clerks and are foitable. Some concerns were expressed about how much information or detail gets reported on the disclosure statement.

Cobb reminded the board members of the protection a disclosure form can have and that there needs to be transparency and accountability at the end of the day.

Supervisor Mary Ann Ashley requested that this be a gender-neutral document replacing the words he and she with the words them and they. Ashley also requested that St. Lawrence County be added to the Civil Service section of the document.

Discussion was held on definition and clarity on the term relative.

The board members thanked all four-committee members Tedra Cobb, Katie Murphy, Natasha Komarov and Marianne DiMarco-Temkin for their work on the Ethics Policy and Disclosure Statement changes.

Council Member Jim Smith suggested moving forward with the Ethics Code/Policy after edits are completed and approved, keeping the disclosure statement a separate document to be approved later. The committee will review/rework the document and bring it back to both boards.

D. Municipal Building User Fees

Supervisor Mary Ann Ashley discussed the option of charging organizations for using municipal space in the building. Ashley added that this can be disruptive for our departments. This matter to go to shared service committee for consideration of a user fee.

E. CCRC Update:

Chair Toby Irven was present and stated things are moving along. The committee is in the process of looking for an accountant to do the audits. The next Canton Capital Resource Committee meeting will be held on April 4th, 2019. All minutes are posted to the website.

F. Discuss Economic Development Consolidation Funding Application

G. Discuss Economic Development Downtown Revitalization Application

Discussion was held on both F&G together. Leigh Rodriguez was present and expressed her needs of wanting to have a process, as far as committees submitting projects for these applications and having appropriate budgeting and staff to work on these projects. Rodriguez stated that she needs guidance and time to get information together, adding that an idea needs a lot of details before it becomes grant ready. Grants are typically announced around May and due the end of July. These grants will be discussed again at April's meeting.

H. Municipal Facilities Needs Assessment RFP Update

Supervisor Mary Ann Ashley stated that the RFP has been prepared, reviewed and is ready to be sent to the newspaper and engineering firms for a municipal need's assessment.

I. Intermunicipal Agreement March review

Supervisor Mary Ann Ashley reminded the board members that the agreements are due once again. Trustee Carol Pyncheon talked about adding a provision to the Municipal Building agreement on how the process works with changes to the building and put that process in place.

J. Video Recording of Meetings:

Council Member Bob Washo stated that he has been asked by a number of people that would like to see Video recording of the board meetings, using an iPhone and post them on a YouTube site. Washo wants to bring the meetings to people's home that are not now attending the public meetings. This suggestion will be discussed by each board separate.

K. Public Comment:

Toby Irven was present and stated that he does not like the seating arraignment upstairs in the board room with board members backs being to the public. Board members to consider holding meetings in the Courtroom.

Trustee Carol Pynchon reported that she, Council member Jim Smith and Leigh Rodriquez held a phone conference with the Comprehensive Plan consultants and went over the long list of suggestions and changes to the document for a couple hours. April 12th, 2019 the revisions will be back for another review.

Council member Tim Danehy reported that he would like to talk to Code Enforcement Officer Jeff Murray about construction fees, in light of the current fee change request.

Executive Session: Upon a majority vote upon a motion that identifies the subject to be considered, the Council may conduct an executive session to discuss any of the issues identified as proper by Public Officers Law (1)

8:37 p.m. Village Trustee Klaus Proemm made a motion to go into executive session for the purpose of (H) seconded by Trustee Beth Larrabee. All voted in favor. Motion carries.

8:47 p.m. came out of executive session by motion of Village Trustee Carol Pynchon, seconded by Town Council member Phil LaMarche. All voted in favor. Motion carries.

8:48 Mayor Mike Dalton made a motion to adjourn the joint meeting, seconded by Council member Phil LaMarche. All voted in favor. Motion carries.

8:49 p.m. Council member Jim Smith made a motion to go into executive session for the purpose of Public Law 105 (f) seconded by Council member Tim Danehy. All voted in favor. Motion carries.

9:30 p.m. Council member Phil LaMarche made a motion to come out of executive session, seconded by Council member Tim Danehy. All voted in favor. Motion carries.

9:31 p.m. Council member Bob Washo made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Council member Jim Smith. All voted in favor. Motion carries.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lisa A. Hammond, Canton Town Clerk
